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INFORMATION BULLETIN

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The Main Reading Room Reopens

Library of Congress
INFORMATION BULLETIN

JAMES H. BILLINGTON
Librarian of Congress

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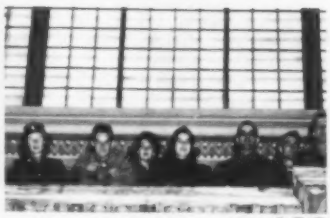

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On the Cover: Spring 1990: A carpenter installs a window frame in scholars' carrels above the Main Reading Room as part of the massive, multiyear renovation. The room will reopen June 1. *Photo by Reid Baker*

Cover Story: On Nov. 1, 1897, the Main Reading Room had its first day of business. But there is also a story to be told of the Library before the reading room. 181

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New Associate Librarian for Special Projects Named

Carolynn Reid-Wallace to Assume Post Sept. 1

Dr. Billington April 24 announced the appointment of Carolynn Reid-Wallace, vice chancellor for academic affairs at the City University of New York (CUNY), as associate librarian for special projects. She will assume her duties at the Library on Sept. 1.

Appointed to her CUNY position in 1987, Ms. Reid-Wallace managed academic affairs for an institution with a $1.1 billion budget, 200,000 students, 25,000 faculty members and 21 colleges, including law and medical schools. CUNY is the nation's third largest urban university system.

She said she is proud of CUNY, not only for its distinguished faculty—"more Nobel laureates than any other college in the United States"—but for its tradition of providing quality education for children whose parents cannot afford high-priced tuitions. "The thing I love about that school is the hundreds of thousands of graduates who have made important contributions to our society," she said.

She has worked on special projects to revitalize the academic curricula for the 21 colleges in the CUNY system. She has also developed experimental cooperative programs to assist teachers in the secondary schools to enhance their skills.

Ms. Reid-Wallace said she is pleased to be moving back to Washington, where she previously lived and worked. "I am excited by the opportunity to work with Dr. Billington, who is one of the foremost historians in the world," she said.

As associate librarian for special projects, she will manage a new service unit that was created in 1989 to coordinate the work of special project teams. Authorized by the Management Team, the teams analyze and propose responses to systemic problems or opportunities that cut across the Library organization. Each requires a commitment of time and resources from two or more service units.

A native of Williamsburg, Va., Ms. Reid-Wallace earned a bachelor's degree in English from Fisk University in Nashville (1964), a master's degree in English from Adelphi University in Garden City, N.Y. (1965), and a doctorate in English from George Washington University (1981). She has been a Rockefeller Scholar, a Fulbright Lecturer, and a Ford Fellow.

She was a professor of English at Bowie State College from 1974 to 1978, where she also served as dean of the college and acting chief executive for the last two years of her term. Previously, she taught English and American literature at Grinnell College and at Howard University.

Ms. Reid-Wallace served from 1979 to 1982 as a senior staff member of the National Association for Equal Opportunity in Higher Education, where she organized and directed national workshops on the humanities and the education of minorities.

During the next five years, Ms. Reid-Wallace worked at the National Endowment for the Humanities

(NEH), where she was assistant director for education and director of elementary and secondary schools program. Her accomplishments at NEH include working with such cultural institutions as the Folger Shakespeare Library and the Newberry Library on collaborative projects. She was also successful in preparing grant initiatives and analyses of the effectiveness of cultural programs.

She was named to the Governor's Commission on Libraries in New York state in 1990.

LC to Cosponsor British Film Festival

The Library and the British Academy of Film & Television Arts (BAFTA) will sponsor "The Great British Picture Show," a major film and television festival, from May 12 to June 1 in Washington, so announced Richard Attenborough, vice president of BAFTA.

The festival, which will include free screenings and lectures at the Library's Madison Building, as well as commercial screenings at Washington's Union Station, will consist of world film and television premieres, film and television classics, and master classes and lectures by internationally acclaimed film and television professionals.

About half of the 100 films to be screened will be from Library collections.

" 'The Great British Picture Show,' which is being sponsored by BT [British Telecommunications plc], coincides with the first state visit

(Cont. on p. 180)

Film Festival *(Cont. from p. 179)*
since the bicentennial celebration in 1976 by Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Philip, the Duke of Edinburgh," said Mr. Attenborough, Academy Award winning director of "Gandhi."

"'The Great British Picture Show,'" he continued, "will be the most comprehensive festival of British film and television ever seen in the United States."

"No other facet of British culture today is as varied and vibrant as our British films and television. The Academy is pleased to work with the Library of Congress in bringing the best of this dazzling work—everything from Alfred Hitchcock and the late Sir David Lean to 'Masterpiece Theatre' and award-winning TV documentaries—to our friends in America."

In announcing cosponsorship of the festival, Librarian James H. Billington said, "As America's leader in film collection and preservation, we are delighted to join our British colleagues in this celebration. We have the country's largest collection of British films and television, and we look forward to showing some of the best of it to the public."

The cultural director of "The Great British Picture Show" is David Robinson, critic of the *Times* of London. Robinson, who for the past three years has directed the Edinburgh International Film Festival, is the author of *Chaplin: His Life and Art,* a biography of the British-born filmmaker.

Britain's Central Independent Television will oversee the television components of the festival.

The British Academy of Film and Television Arts was established in 1947 to encourage and recognize high standards in film and television. A nonprofit organization, BAFTA has nearly 3,000 members, elected for their creative contributions to film or television or both. BAFTA has offices in London, Manchester, Glasgow, Cardiff, Los Angeles and New York.

"I am delighted that British Telecom, one of the world's largest telecommunication groups, is the main sponsor of this festival," said Ian Vallance, chairman of BT. "The artists represented by the British Academy of Film and Television Arts produce films and programs which delight huge audiences worldwide.

"BT shares with BAFTA a proud British heritage and a global reputation for excellence," Mr. Vallance added. "In BT's case, it is in the highly competitive world of telecommunications where we play a leading role in their development and have made major investments in the U.S. market. We are pleased to link our cultural and commercial interests by bringing the festival to Washington during the state visit of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II and His Royal Highness Prince Philip."

> *"'The Great British Picture Show,' will be the most comprehensive festival of British film and television ever seen in the United States. No other facet of British culture today is as varied and vibrant as our British films and television. The Academy is pleased to work with the Library of Congress in bringing the best of this dazzling work—everything from Alfred Hitchcock and the late Sir David Lean to 'Masterpiece Theatre' and award-winning TV documentaries—to our friends in America."*
>
> *—Richard Attenborough, filmmaker*

The Library of Congress contains the world's largest film and television archive, with more than 100,000 motion pictures and 80,000 television programs. Since the 1940s, Great Britain has deposited many of its films for copyright in the Library, giving LC the most extensive collection of British film outside Great Britain.

The Library also has been active in the preservation of British films through its Motion Picture Conservation Center at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base in Dayton, Ohio. In recent years LC has instituted a nitrate exchange program with the British Film Institute because the Library's archives contained some film the British collection did not.

Film scholars worldwide use LC's collections through the Motion Picture, Broadcasting and Recorded Sound Division (M/B/RS). The general public can view selections from the Library's collections through an extensive program of free public screenings in the Mary Pickford Theater.

"In playing host to this extensive display of British motion pictures and television," said Robert Saudek, chief of M/B/RS, "the Library of Congress launches the first in a series of festivals of foreign films and television programs which comprise a significant part of its worldwide collection."

British Telecom has more than $20 billion in annual revenue and offices in more than 30 countries. In the United States, BT has nearly 2,000 employees and 20 years' experience in providing communications expertise and leading-edge technology to its business partners.

In helping to bring the festival to Washington, BT is demonstrating its ties to TV broadcasting—a link that goes back to 1936 and the opening in Britain of the world's first public television service.

"American comedy and drama is familiar to British viewers," said Leslie Hill, chairman and chief executive officer of Central Television.

"British programs, with Central's among them, are seen by audiences across America and in many other countries around the world. 'The Great British Picture Show' will provide a special opportunity for the American public to see a wide range of high-quality popular British programs, and the daily seminars will enable program makers to share experiences and ideas."

Full Circle:

Ninety Years of Service in the Main Reading Room

by Josephus Nelson and Judith Farley

To many Americans, the Main Reading Room is *the* symbol of the Library of Congress. Yet the Library existed for almost a hundred years before the stately Jefferson Building and its reading room opened in 1897.

The first congressional appropriation for the Library passed in 1800, and the first catalog describing its holdings (with volumes listed according to size) was issued in 1802. Housed in a portion of the U.S. Capitol, the library then consisted of "212 folios, 164 quartos, 581 octavos, 7 duodecimos, and 9 maps," noted Herbert Small's *Handbook of the New Library of Congress* of 1899.

To reseed the collection, burned entirely by the British in the War of 1812, Thomas Jefferson sold at cost 6,487 volumes from his library to LC. Around that nucleus the collections grew steadily.

Then, in 1865, Librarian Ainsworth Rand Spofford used his influence to achieve a major change in the way the Library built its collection: Copyright law was revised to require that two copies of every registered book be deposited at LC. From then on, growth continued unabated.

But the burgeoning collections needed more room. Construction of a new building, now named after Jefferson, took eight years after congressional approval in 1889. At the center of the building was the Main Reading Room, whose ceiling reached 160 feet to the dome. The room, replete with statuary, gilded rosettes, railings, arches and stained glass, provided a visual feast for readers who lifted their eyes from their books.

But the Main Reading Room is more than an architectural triumph. It is the living center of the Library, where scholars and researchers pursue the knowledge in its holdings. Here their search is aided by reference librarians (formerly library assistants), LC's human face. This article is the story of these librarians.

"Columbus," by Paul W. Bartlett, one of 16 bronze portrait statues set along the balustrade of the visitors gallery (see story on page 188). Along with the statue of inventor Robert Fulton, it represents "Commerce." *Photo courtesy of Architect of the Capitol*

Shaping the Future: 1897–1939. "The great sight of the Library," wrote Paul Angle in his history of LC, is "the very heart of the institution, the reading room. That should be seen from the visitors' gallery and at night. Even though one stands at a back-breaking height above the floor, the dome, lined with book stacks and strung with lights, reaches far above; while below, the dark surfaces of hundreds of desks, in concentric broken circles, gleam with the shaded lights of intent readers. Even the brashest tourist speaks in a whisper. What goes on here, he perceives instinctively, matches the majesty of the surroundings."

The Washington Post, describing the Nov. 1, 1897, opening of the new building, said, "The first day of the Library's public service

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Main Reading Room
(Cont. from p. 181)
passed off without incident." On that first day, rain-spattered Library visitors were permitted to enter the building at 8:30 a.m. A watchman, stationed outside the reading room, carefully screened them, admitting only potential readers, at 9. Upon entering, readers found a waiting and mindful staff, volumes of reference books lining the walls and a room richly decorated in gleaming wood and sumptuous marble.

Portion of "The Evolution of Civilization," by E.H. Blashfield, painted in the collar of the dome. Each figure is about 10 feet tall and is the artist's conception of the stages in man's intellectual development. *Photos courtesy of the Architect of the Capitol*

"Hugh Alexander Morrison and John Graham Morrison [not related; both were assistants to the superintendent of the Reading Room], and Willard Moore were positioned at the large circular service desk [the superintendent and his staff presided over this central point in the room]. Surrounding the desk, and taking the place of the first row of seats, were shelves containing a selection of books for ready reference. A small catalog held pride of place inside the desk, and a plentiful supply of tickets [each had a space for an author's name, a book title and a reader's name] were available for those wishing to order books."

Mr. Vale, private secretary to Rhode Island's Republican Sen. George Peabody Wetmore, requested the first book, but David Hutcheson, superintendent of the reading room, had to tell him with some chagrin that the Library had not yet received *Roger Williams' Year Book*. Agriculture Department staffer Max West, second in line, quickly received Martha Lamb's *History of New York*, and a woman behind him, *Lady Eastlake's Memoirs*.

At day's end Librarian John Russell Young gave credence to *The Washington Post's* comment by declaring he was pleased with the book deliveries and the "manner in which the crowds of readers were handled by the attendants."

Those years were shaped by the administrations of Young and Herbert Putnam. Young, who served as Librarian from 1897 to 1899, was later called the "Great Beginner," for his short tenure was full of "firsts."

"He was the first to administer the Library under its new charter, first who would not describe himself nor his office as merely 'the organ of the Joint Committee,' first to differentiate the collections by form, first to effect the staff organization Congress had provided, first to preside over the Library's own building, first to struggle with a scientific classification, first to install a service for the blind, first to secure the opportunities which go with evening service, first to receive the promise of a trust fund, first to express the universal concept, and first to perfect the national principle," said the 1946 *Report of the Librarian of Congress*.

He was also the first Librarian to preside over the new Jefferson Building, but his occupation of the Librarian's quarters was brief. It was his immediate successor, Herbert Putnam, who fully exploited the opportunities the new building offered.

Putnam spoke of himself as having "tended" the Library. During his administration (1899–1939) the institution grew much larger with the addition of book stacks for the southeast and northeast courtyards, an auditorium, a pavilion and the eastern extension and the Annex (now called the Adams Building).

"He worked and watched as the manuscript collections became the greatest body in existence of research materials for the study of the American past—as the music collections attained preeminence—as the map collections were acknowledged to be unparalleled. . . . It was his card catalog which outgrew that cabinet within the central desk, was removed to a sector in the reading room, and thence expanded into adjoining quarters," said a memorial tribute to Putnam.

The spaciousness of the Main Reading Room allowed administrators to expand service. Previous Librarians were hindered by a small staff and limited space. Young recognized the importance of aiding researchers as well as members of Congress. In his 1898 annual report he wrote: "The Librarian is glad to note that the Library is becoming, as it were, a bureau of information, consulted by people from all sections. Twenty years ago, and as a rule, the Library was sought for a specific book; today applicants ask advice as to reading, or request special information. It is the policy of the Library to encourage this spirit of inquiry." Putnam, the eighth Librarian, and the Main Reading Room superintendents defined the scope of reference service for four decades.

A reference policy slowly evolved under Putnam and his supervisors. Putnam's, in some degree, is expressed in an 1899 memorandum to cataloger Charles Hastings. He explained that the reading room was supervised by a "trained librarian, who with several assistants, is prepared to answer questions as to the best literature on any topic," and to

do so "without limit as to time except so far as governed by the exigencies of the service."

In his 1901 report Putnam stressed that "the Main Reading Room is usually the point first approached by an inquirer. It is the duty of the desk attendants to place at his disposal such information as they have."

William Warner Bishop, Putnam's second appointee to head the room, helped in the fine tuning of policy. His philosophy was set out in a series of articles, such as "Amount of Help to Be Given to Readers" and "The Theory of Reference Work."

The 1939 *Information for Readers in the Reading Room* contains an explicit policy statement:

"Persons in search of information on particular topics, especially if it be a small item, will frequently find what they desire to know in some of the books in the reference collections. The assistants at the reference desk will gladly point out the location of appropriate reference books, and so far as is compatible with the needs of others, aid a reader in securing information. They will always endeavor to be of aid to him, and whenever necessary the problem will be placed before other members of the Library staff or an appropriate division of the Library, or in certain cases referred to our experienced consultants. The Library cannot, however, undertake to conduct research for readers, but must content itself with suggesting material that may bear on the subject."

A Tradition of Excellence. Putnam chose experienced people to implement the service-oriented program. It fell to the reading room superintendent to supervise assistants and implement policy. During the early years, the superintendents were talented and well-educated men, many of whom went on to illustrious positions in the library field.

David Hutcheson came in 1874, eventually becoming principal assistant to Librarian Spofford, before being appointed reading room superintendent in 1897. Hutcheson was praised for management skill. The 1897 *Library Journal* said: "He has shown executive capacity, courtesy and tact, and he is especially fitted for the part." And in the September 1907 *Library Quarterly* he was commended for "his own encyclopedic store of information . . . and intimate knowledge of books in general and the contents of the Library of Congress in particular, [which] have always been placed freely at the service of any inquirer."

William Warner Bishop, his successor in 1907 and one of the "scholar-librarians," was a University of Michigan graduate, a classicist and linguist. Before coming to the Library he had directed reference and cataloging at Princeton. "To the job itself Bishop brought organization & systematization, both of which he developed to a high degree," said 1961's *An American Library History Reader.*

Bishop later wrote of his experience: "The Reading Room post was not easy to fill. Indeed it taxed my powers to the utmost. . . . But it was magnificent training." Bishop later returned to Michigan, where he became director of the university's library system.

Frederick W. Ashley, the first reading room superintendent to graduate from a library school, served in 1915–1926. Trained at New York State Library, Ashley was touted as a resourceful and learned executive. Within the Library of Congress he advanced to become chief assistant librarian, a post he held until 1936.

Martin Arnold Roberts, a longtime Library administrator, was appointed in 1927 and was superintendent until 1937. He was described in a June 1940 memo as "a man of unremitting and self-sacrificing industry."

David Chambers Mearns, appointed in 1938 and author of *The Story Up to Now: The Library of Congress, 1800–1946,* started his career "sorting books by size." After a brief interval as an "index-finger typist" he began his service in the Main Reading Room. Librarian Archibald MacLeish (1939–1944) said Mearns was "the rarest treasure in the Library of Congress," and Librarian Luther Evans (1945–1953) told him: "You were for me more the embodiment of the Library of Congress than any other person, perhaps because you loved it most."

Expert Waiters on the Public. On the junior staff, the assistants at the center desk, fell the duties of meeting reader requests. Personnel hired for these positions were expected to have broad experience and education. Not only were strong educational credentials required, but, according to a February 1900 memo, such personal attributes as "good manners, tact, patience and a good memory" were also emphasized. Gender and race were in some cases specified. Hutcheson, in announcing an assistant position, noted in a May 1899 memo: "For this place a young man [is] preferred, as it requires constant activity." In describing a position in the Senate Reading Room, he wrote: "An active colored

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Main Reading Room
(Cont. from p. 183)

or white man with good manners and a good education" is needed.

Depending on their qualifications and experience, Reading Room assistants in 1899 were paid salaries ranging from $720 to $1,200 a year. Joseph Schneider, who had a reading knowledge of four languages, a teaching degree from the Academy of Paris and six years of experience as assistant librarian at Georgetown College (Washington, D.C.), started at $720. Philip DeWitt Phair, fluent in Latin, French and German, a graduate of Harvard (M.A.), instructor in history and political science at Hartford's Trinity College, and a sometime assistant librarian at the college, secured a $900 appointment. (Administrators believed that Phair's history and political science background would make him especially effective in answering congressional requests.)

Those applicants meriting the $1,200 appointment needed not only a college degree and language skills, but "a wide acquaintance with literature, especially of the literature of the United States and of modern Europe. Fair knowledge of history and geography, and some knowledge of the literature of the various sciences. Experience in a reference, or other large, library giving a knowledge of the sources of information, such as works of reference, and of the methods of classification and cataloging" were essential, said a February 1900 memo.

Both men and women were employed in the Main Reading Room, but women were hired with some reservations. Some in the library community as well as at the Library of Congress questioned their aptitude and stamina. William Fletcher, librarian at Amherst College, said in the November 1896 hearings before the Joint Committee on the Library: "I agree with what has been said as to the usefulness and efficiency of women in many library positions, especially in cataloging, and at the counters of free public libraries, where by their superior powers of sympathy, they excel as guides and leaders of the reading of those who resort to them. I should, however, consider it doubtful whether they could satisfactorily be employed as librarians or assistants outside of the cataloging work in the Library of Congress."

In fact, eight women, according to David Hutcheson's 1898 report, were assigned to the room, but their duties were primarily clerical. None was assigned to the reference desk to "strive to reduce the labor of the reader by hospitality to direct inquiries," said the 1901 annual report. Reference work apparently was not one of the "gentle and useful offices suitable for women," the 1897 report said.

The Main Reading Room employed African-American staff members too. Poet Paul Laurence Dunbar was assigned there. Having charge of one of the decks, he worked from September 1897 until December 1898. An admirer told of visiting him: "Climbing four short flights of stairs in the north stack of the Library, I found my poet, seated . . . at a desk, busily engaged on some special work in connection with his present position." Dunbar gave poetry recitals, too, in the Pavilion of the Blind.

Daniel A.P. Murray, a bibliophile and Dunbar colleague, was also assigned to the reading room. Best known for having assembled a collection of the works of African-American authors—the collection is now in the the Rare Book and Special Collections Division—Murray worked "mainly in arranging the Smithsonian collection of publications of scientific societies, and on duty in the stacks," said a November 1898 memo. In 1910 he is listed as a reading room assistant. (Dunbar and Murray are not a representative sample, but their stories give some sense of the positions available to African-Americans.)

The reading room assistants had many duties. Stationed at the huge reference desk, they provided reader assistance.

Telephone requests were taken at the desk too: "The telephone was constantly in use in requesting books and information," said the January 1948 *Library Quarterly*. The assistants also had other responsibilities: "In addition, the reading room handles a considerable volume of reference work by correspondence, preparing typed responses in the form of memoranda for transmission through the Librarian's office."

The staff's competence was shown by the wide-ranging reference questions answered. Responding to a garbled telephone call, the assistants were able to determine that a caller's request for "Dickinson's Notes" was really a call for Charles Dickens' *American Notes*. Similarly they ascertained that the request for "The Tom Horsement of the Afolca Type" was really a request for *The Four Horsemen of the Apocalypse*.

Circulation and interlibrary loan were also carried out in the reading room. "For the reading room division of the Library of Congress is also the principal circulation department of the Library," said the *Quarterly*, and "the reading room attends also to the interlibrary loan service

to libraries throughout the United States."

And congressional requests also came in: "When a member wanted information he usually wrote about it. But when he wanted books, he generally came and got them."

The assistants were responsible for study desk service. "A limited number of tables are available for the use of authors, scholars and governmental researchers whose requirements for the successful prosecution of their studies are obviously greater than those of casual readers." The assistants provided many services now performed by specialized divisions of the Library.

Junior staff members were the contact point for many readers, but did not have the final word. "The Main Reading Room is usually the point first approached by an inquirer. It is the duty of the desk attendants to place at his disposal such information as they have; but it is their paramount duty to see that his inquiry reaches the official or division capable of giving him the fullest and most accurate answer," said the 1901 annual report.

Problems and Perplexities. The staff's work was hampered because the Main Reading Room did not have the catalogs and indexes, today's standard reference tools. In 1897, for example, there was no complete and current catalog. Said a 1970 thesis by Edith Scott on 20th century cataloging:

"The reading room attendants were primarily dependent on the official catalog kept in boxes without rods under the desk in the reading room, 'so that the public can not run away with it.' Although generally described as an author catalog, it included some subject entries for biographies and for histories of families, as well as added entries for joint authors or joint editors as authors."

In classifying the collections, the Cataloging Division made a current catalog a possibility. By 1900 a dictionary catalog containing 90,000 cards had been installed on the floor of the reading room.

The assistants in the early years of the century were "book detectives" rather than learned purveyors of information. They spent much of their time solving the book service problems readers encountered daily. These problems sprang from working with a collection that had not been completely classified or cataloged. Searching for material, consequently, was neither simple nor straightforward. Management relied on the assistants to find clever ways of making the vast but disorganized collection yield the needed sources.

This point is made in a story William Warner Bishop told about John Morrison and Hugh Morrison, two of the most senior assistants. "They had literally grown up in it [i.e., the Library] and had gained invaluable knowledge of its books from living with them and seeing them. Time and time again I have seen them solve bibliographical puzzles which had baffled the best brains of the service, not by their learning but by practical skill in finding books."

Thus finding books involved hard work, but the work generated its own interest. "We were on our feet continuously," said Verner W. Clapp, a former reading room assistant who became chief assistant Librarian of Congress. "There was much physical labor involved, going around servicing the pressure tubes for the slips, getting the books off the carriers, locating newspapers, delivering books, giving readers instructions on the use of the catalog . . . going anywhere in the Library to get material or information. It was a legwork job and it was exciting."

Along with the development of the Main Catalog, the assistants, recognizing the need to "get their house in order," developed reference aids to support service. Superintendent Hutcheson reported that assistants Hugh Morrison and G.T. Ritchie were compiling, after hours, a fiction index to help the staff search for short stories, novels and romances.

Despite the apparent good humor of the staff, the Library was not always a happy workplace. Librarian Putnam wrote in the 1913 report that "the resignation of desk attendants is an incessant perplexity to the service." Here he asked: How could the Library recruit and keep talented assistants?

The well-qualified men and women hired for the Main Reading Room resigned frequently because of the Library's low wages. They did not want to be "left after years of service to live upon wages that a roustabout would deride." Exacerbating the problem was World War I. Many of the experienced assistants entered the armed services or took better paying war-related jobs, leaving behind partly trained successors or raw recruits.

Large and Demanding Constituency. The assistants served a large, demanding constituency. Congress, of course, ranked first. "Many members of Congress had been in Washington for years, and the reading room force knew them personally and intimately. Some came for their

(Cont. on p. 189)

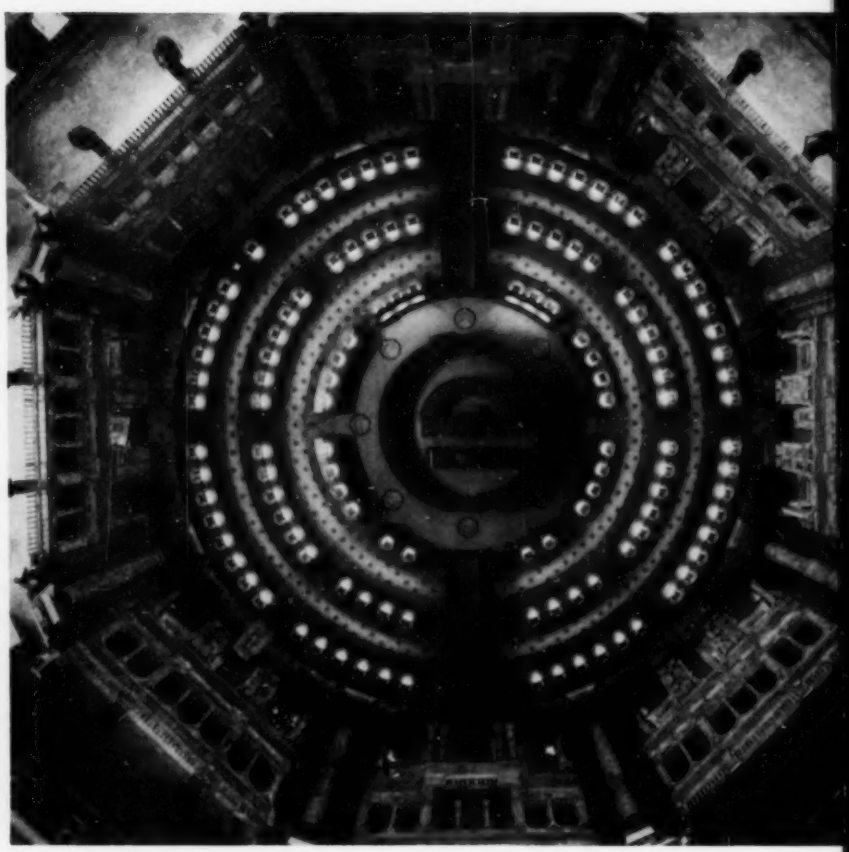
The Reading Room: Before, During and After

One of the most noticeable changes accomplished during the renovation of the Main Reading Room is that card catalogs have been removed and replaced by 44 additional reader desks, completing the full circle.

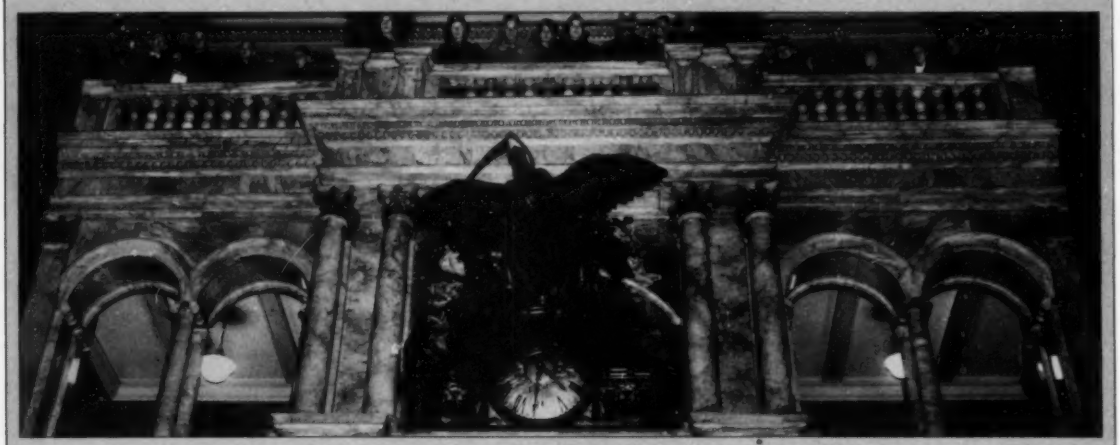
The reading room has been carpeted for the first time, with some 1,950 yards of a custom-designed Wilton carpet, manufactured in England for the Library. Its design incorporates two of the architectural elements in the room, the ceiling rosettes and the wreaths above the marble columns.

Paint scrapings were done to determine the original colors. The walls, ceilings and original iron shelving in the alcoves have also been restored to the original color scheme.

On the upper levels, exterior windows that had been covered over have been uncovered and restored.



Phases of restoration (clockwise from top left): The Main Reading Room was also renovated in the mid-1960s; this 1965 photo shows the card catalog files (lower left), which were removed, as seen in following photo of current renovation. Carpeting specially designed for the room was laid in January. New as well as old desks were covered in plastic to protect their finish. Marble columns were cleaned by hand. Aerial view taken from the top of the dome shows the completed space, including the new desks that replaced the card catalogs, completing the full circle. *Carpet-laying photos by Alex Pohl; others courtesy of the Architect of the Capitol*



Flanagan's clock is mounted below the visitors gallery, as seen in circa World War II-era photo.

Reading Room Wasn't Completed by Opening Day in 1897

When the Main Reading Room opened for service Nov. 1, 1897, two of its major elements were missing and one person was to blame.

The statues of Columbus (shown on page 181) and Michelangelo, assigned to sculptor Paul W. Bartlett, had yet to be delivered.

The two are among the 16 bronze portrait statues on the balustrade of the visitors gallery. They are positioned below eight symbolic plaster statues representing religion, commerce, history, art, philosophy, poetry, law and science.

Civil engineer Bernard R. Green, the superintendent in immediate charge of the Jefferson Building's construction, kept a journal from October 1888 until nearly five years after the building's opening. According to Helen-Anne Hilker's *Monument to Civilization*, "Only twice does his journal reflect real impatience with an artist, and of those occasions, apparently the artist knew it only once. Paul Bartlett, a 32-year-old scupltor and painter from Connecticut, who studied under Rodin and who sculpted the equestrian statue of Lafayette in the Louvre, got the full brunt of Mr. Green's frustrations on November 20, 1897." Said the diary:

"Bronze statue of *Columbus* arrived at last from Henry-Bonnard Bronze Co. N.Y., and so did the sculptor Paul W. Bartlett from Paris. I took him to task for his delay in fulfilling his contract of 3½ years ago and the fact that the third piece [Bartlett was also the sculptor of "Law"], statue of *Michael Angelo*, is not yet modeled. This, he said, he could not stand and precipitately left the room and finally left the building without returning to the office."

Not wanting to waste any more time in getting the reading room completed, Green had "Columbus" hoisted up to its place the next day—a Sunday. "Michelangelo" did not arrive until Dec. 22, 1898, and again, wanting no delays, Green had him placed Christmas Day.

Another of the missing details from the room was the subject of Green's other documented irritation, but judging by the entry, the artist was unaware of Green's feelings. The installation of John Flanagan's clock was not completed until Aug. 9, 1902. Green wrote in his journal: "After much fussing over the details of the clock sculpture, its setting and coloring, also efforts of Flanagan to apply a new pair of serpent hands, the latter were temporarily attached today and the whole work considered completed. . . . The new hands are too heavy for the works of the clock and not of satisfactory shape and form. The old plain hands will therefore be restored and Flanagan proposes to supply a new light pair in the future. Whether he does or not, the present old pair will answer."

According to *Monument to Civilization:* "Mr. Green did not put much stock in those artistic hands. Nevertheless, the hands on the clock today are serpentine." On Aug. 19, 1902, Green recorded his journal's final entry:

"John Flanagan, sculptor of R. Rm. clock, finally said good bye today and said he was going to New York, intending to look for work and to establish a studio in that city."

—Guy Lamolinara

Main Reading Room *(Cont. from p. 185)*
own books and would not even let them be sent home by the Library car. Others always sent their secretaries, and still others, various hangers-on. From 'Uncle Joe' Cannon down to the latest arrived member, they were in search of reading matter," said *Library Quarterly* in 1948.

Members of the public, either in person or through correspondence, used the Main Reading Room reference service. Historian James Truslow Adams observed in 1931 in *The Epic of America:* "As one looks down on the general reading room . . . one sees the seats filled with silent readers, old and young, rich and poor, black and white, the executive and the laborer, the general and the private . . . all reading at their own library provided by their own democracy."

The superintendents took great delight in listing the many noted researchers who used the reading room. For example, *The Founding of New England* by James Truslow Adams, which won the 1922 Pulitzer Prize in American history, was entirely written at the Library. Ida Tarbell worked in the Library while writing her book on Lincoln.

However, some reading room users found the staff and service wanting. In 1898 an anonymous reader wrote a scathing letter to New York's *Evening Post.* According to him, the confusion and inefficiency were compounded by the lack of a scholarly air:

"There are no end of attendants bustling around the central pulpit-desk, and the automatic delivery tubes keep up a great noise, but somehow the books do not come; or, when they come, they turn out to be volumes that have not been asked for. Conversation on the part of the readers is prohibited, but the crowd of employees and messengers do not scruple to speak as loud as may be, and the women clerks bustle about with rustling skirts and with loud-tapping boot-heels on the marble floors. The consumptive coughing of the pneumatic delivery tubes goes on continually, and the whole atmosphere of the nation's library in its gorgeous home is as far from scholarly as can be imagined. The placards 'Keep Quiet' are hung at the pulpit-desk, from which comes all the noise! After years of possession there is no card catalogue, and if a book does not chance to be in one of the printed catalogues, readers must depend on the memory of the librarians. Altogether the condition of affairs at the new Library appears to be as unsatisfactory as possible."

Lyman Beecher Stowe held a different view. In the June 13, 1937, *New York Times Magazine,* he told a story illustrating the standards Herbert Putnam set for the room at the beginning of the century:

"Not so long ago a student wrote to the superintendent of the reading room at the Library of Congress at Washington to say that he wanted to come to the library and use it for two or three weeks going over material which he needed in connection with his writing and lecturing. He mentioned the subjects he wished to look up. When he reached the library three or four days later he was shown to a little office furnished with chairs, a desk and bookshelves containing the books and magazines which he would be most likely to need. His name was even on the door. During his stay he not only was surrounded with the books and papers he needed but received kind and constant advice of experts as to their use."

Surpassing All Others. Librarian Putnam, writing in the 1914 *Report of the Librarian of Congress,* did not criticize the quality of service. He said the Library had not only made great progress in organizing its collections but that it surpassed all other U.S. libraries in several areas.

The growth of the collections, the demands of an information-hungry public and the increased competence of the assistants led to an evolution in their work. Staffers increasingly became the chief guides for the reader in the use of the Library. They formed the corps of "expert waiters upon the public."

In *The Future in America,* H.G. Wells, observing the United States of the early 20th century through somewhat jaundiced eyes, reported his disappointment with the lack of an American intellectual life. He was reassured only when he arrived at the Library to visit Putnam and a small group of other men:

"I lunched with them at their Round Table, and afterwards Mr. Putnam showed me the Rotunda [now called the Main Reading Room], quite the most gracious reading-room the world possesses, and explained the wonderful mechanical organization that brings almost every volume in that immense collection within a minute of one's hand. 'With all this,' I asked him, 'why doesn't the place think?' He seemed, discreetly, to consider it did.

Mr. Nelson is a reference specialist in British history in the General Reading Rooms Division and Ms. Farley is a reference specialist also in the General Reading Rooms Division.

A Special Preview

Members of the public will be given a rare one-time opportunity to preview the newly renovated Main Reading Room of the Thomas Jefferson Building on June 1 and 2, from 9 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

Visitors will be admitted through the west front doors of the Jefferson Building, on First Street SE.

For information call the Library's Visitor Services Office (202) 707–5458.

LC Summer Educators Institute:

The Bill of Rights

For the third consecutive year, the Library is offering a Summer Educators Institute for librarians and teachers of primary and secondary school students.

This summer's topic, "The Bill of Rights and Beyond: Dialogue Between Vision and Reality," was chosen because 1991 is the 200th anniversary of the adoption of the Bill of Rights.

Cosponsored by Catholic University of America's department of education, the three-week institute will be held at the Library July 15–Aug. 2. It will give participants an opportunity to examine the "natural law" articulated in the Declaration of Independence and how it is expressed in U.S. law.

The institute will focus on pivotal periods in American history. Examining the historical context of the Bill of Rights, the Civil War amendments and the Civil Rights acts, participants will explore how these initiatives advanced the process of securing rights for Americans.

Leading scholars of each period will lecture and lead discussions; library reference specialists will guide participants in conducting independent research using the resources of the Library; and master teachers will help instructors apply the lessons learned from the institute in the classroom.

Participants receive a stipend of $800 and are eligible for three hours of continuing education credit from Catholic University upon completion of their research projects.

Applications must be postmarked by May 31. For a brochure on the institute and information on how to apply, call the Library's Office of Education Services at (202) 707-3302.

The 1991 Summer Educators Institute is made possible by a grant from the Commission on the Bicentennial of the United States Constitution.

—Helen Dalrymple

Harold Ross Schneider, head of the recording laboratory at LC's National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, prepares the latest recording for those interested in visiting the Library. *Photo by Reid Baker*

LC Offers Recorded Information Messages

Recorded telephone information messages about its services have been introduced by the Library in a continuing effort to improve public service.

Updated frequently, the three recordings are designed for researchers, visitors and those who simply wish to know the current hours of service. Among other public programs highlighted in this recording is information about the inauguration of the Current Events Corridor, the Library's newest exhibition area in the Madison Building. The first exhibit on public display in the first-floor corridor, "Crisis in the Gulf," features maps detailing areas in the Persian Gulf region from collections in the Geography and Map Division.

Telephone numbers to note for the recorded messages are:

☐ (202) 707-6400—hours of opening of each of the Library's reading rooms

☐ (202) 707-6500—information on doing research at the Library, including how to get started and how to get reference assistance over the telephone

☐ (202) 707-8000—information on visiting the Library, including services and programs such as public tours, the visitors' orientation film, major exhibitions, the sales shop and the food facilities.

Each recording also gives information on access to the Library during its major renovation.

The general telephone number remains (202) 707-5000, answered by operators Monday through Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., except holidays. When the switchboard is closed, a recorded message refers callers to the three new information recordings.

Cataloging in Publication Program Celebrates 20th Anniversary

The Cataloging in Publication program will celebrate its 20th anniversary this July. Since 1971 the program has provided the library community with prepublication cataloging records for those books most likely to be widely acquired by the nation's libraries.

These records (CIP records) are printed in the book, facilitating cataloging activities for the nation's libraries while providing them significant cost savings. CIP data also play an important role in acquisitions and book ordering activities, as they are also distributed, in machine-readable form, by the Library prior to the books' publication, thereby alerting libraries to forthcoming titles.

The CIP program began in 1971 as a special project, funded in part by grants from the Council on Library Resources Inc. and the National Endowment for the Humanities. It is now fully supported by Library of Congress appropriations and is administered by the Cataloging in Publication Division.

Publishers participating in this program submit a manuscript or galley of a forthcoming title to the CIP Division. This prepublication information is forwarded to the cataloging divisions, where it proceeds through various cataloging stages, including descriptive cataloging, subject analysis and classification, and the assignment of full and Dewey Decimal Classification numbers.

At the end of the cataloging process, the record is forwarded to the CIP Division, where the publisher's copy is prepared and sent to the publisher to be printed on the copyright page of the book under the legend "Library of Congress Cataloging in Publication Data."

Meanwhile, a machine-readable version of the record is distributed to the library and book vendor communities, where it is reissued in a variety of publications, bibliographic vendor services and made available to members of networks. Since they are distributed well in advance of the book's publication, CIP data not only support cataloging activities but also acquisitions and ordering activities.

During the program's first 12 months of operation it produced 6,438 records for 198 publishers. In FY 1990 CIP data were provided for more than 45,600 titles with more than 3,000 imprints participating in the program.

John Celli, chief of the Cataloging in Publication Division, said, "The success of the program is due to the committed participation of the U.S. publishing community, who daily submit galleys of forthcoming titles for cataloging. It is also due to the dedication of the catalogers and CIP staff who continually work against the clock to meet the pressing needs of the publishers' production schedules to produce CIP data within 10 work days of receipt of the application.

"This is demanding work," Mr. Celli noted, "but I think the value the CIP program has for the library community is enormous and well worth the effort."

Library celebrates Earth Day early: Although the official Earth Day annual remembrance is May 22, LC recognized the event April 20. Assisting Cynthia Anderson (right) is Stephanie Marcus, a science reference librarian. As Ron Wilkinson, senior science specialist, said, "Just a reminder that we owe something to Mother." The Earth Decade Shelf in the Library's Science and Technology Division contains publications and reading lists regarding environmental crises and the responses to them. The shelf was established as one of the division's activities for Earth Day 1990. *Photo by Jim Higgins*

Joining Margrit Krewson at the Austrian Embassy were Librarian James Billington and Ambassador Friedrich Hoess (right). *Photo by Jim Higgins*

Austria's Grand Decoration of Honor Awarded to LC's German-Dutch Specialist

Margrit Krewson, German-Dutch specialist in the European Division, on April 15 was awarded the Grand Decoration of Honor for service to the Republic of Austria. The award, presented by U.S. Ambassador to the United States Friedrich Hoess, was made during a reception at the ambassador's residence attended by Librarian of Congress James H. Billington and some 30 friends, family and Library colleagues. Mrs. Krewson was honored for her "performance, efficiency and dedication to fulfilling her assignment." As Ambassador Hoess remarked before he presented the award, "It is one of my most rewarding tasks to honor a person for her services to . . . Austria. In some cases, such distinction relates to persons who, mainly through their position or influence, have achieved such merits. Others just worked much harder than could be expected to fulfill their assignment, which involves services . . . of great importance to the Republic of Austria. Margrit Krewson represents both." The ambassador also paid tribute to "the wisdom and vision of Mrs. Krewson's superiors, the leadership of the Library of Congress and Mrs. Krewson's dedicated colleagues." The German and Dutch governments have also honored Mrs. Krewson for her contributions to scholarship; in 1987 she was awarded the Officer's Cross of the Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany, and on behalf of Her Majesty Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands, the insignia pertaining to the Order of Oranje-Nassau, in the grade of Knight, in 1989.

New Publication Celebrates 700 Years of Swiss Independence

In conjunction with an exhibition that opened May 10 in the foyer of the Madison Building, the Library has published *The Sister Republics: Switzerland and the United States from 1776 to the Present.*

The 68-page paperbound book, written by James H. Hutson, chief of the Library's Manuscript Division, and illustrated throughout, tells the little-known story of the strong bonds that existed between Switzerland and the new American nation from the earliest days of the American Revolution through World War I. It was made possible by grants from the Swiss government (Coordinating Commission for the Presence of Switzerland Abroad) and the CIBA-GEIGY Corp., with the assistance of the Cultural Affairs Office of the Swiss Embassy.

"The reciprocal borrowing between the United States and Switzerland before the First World War, as well as mutual awareness of a common heritage of resistance to foreign tyranny, prompted citizens of the United States and Switzerland to describe their relationship as one of 'sister republics,'" wrote Librarian James H. Billington in his foreword to the book.

The book gives numerous examples of the reciprocal borrowing that occurred between the two countries as they traded intellectual philosophies and governmental systems.

During the American Revolution Thomas Jefferson was influenced by the ideas of prominent Swiss thinkers such as Jean Jacques Burlamaqui and Emmerich de Vattel on the subject of natural law. Swiss supporters of the American cause drew analogies between the colonials' struggle with Great Britain and Switzerland's own efforts to escape Austrian repression during the 13th and 14th centuries. Swiss artisans and soldiers contributed directly to the war effort in support of the new republic.

The first American national constitution, the Articles of Confederation, was constructed on the Swiss model of a confederacy over sover-

eign states. When Americans repudiated confederal government in 1787 as impotent and unworkable and adopted a new federal constitution, the opponents of the new charter, the Antifederalists, argued that a Swiss-style confederal government was still a viable model that offered the best hope for the preservation of American liberty.

The Swiss themselves repudiated confederal government in 1848, and they used many of the same arguments Americans had marshaled against such a system. The Swiss adopted their own federal constitution in 1848, modeled after the U.S. document.

The Swiss saw echoes of some of their own internal political struggles, which convulsed their country between 1845 and 1848, in the American Civil War.

The Sister Republics: Switzerland and the United States from 1776 to the Present is available from the Library of Congress Sales Shop for $7.95. It can also be ordered by mail by sending a check or money order to Library of Congress, Box J, Washington, DC 20540 (add $3.50 for postage and handling).

Professor André Nitecki of the University of Alberta on April 8 donated issues of three rare newspapers published in Enugu, Nigeria, to Beverly Gray, head of the African Section. The papers *Biafra Spotlight, Biafra Sun* and *Biafran Mirror* highlight the May 30, 1967, secession of the Eastern Region from Nigeria to become the Independent Republic of Biafra. The secessionist declaration marked the beginning of the Nigerian Civil War, which ended January 1970 with the defeat of Biafra's protagonists. Professor Nitecki, who has long been associated with African studies, has taught for many years in Nigeria, Ghana and Mali. *Photo by Reid Baker*

Additions/Changes to USMARC Formats

The following additions/changes have been approved for the USMARC formats. They were considered by the USMARC Advisory Group at the Jan. 12–14 MARBI meetings and reviewed by the Library of Congress.

USMARC Bibliographic Format

☐ Leader/18 (Descriptive cataloging form–Code "u–Unknown" added.

☐ 050 (Library of Congress Call Number)–Subfield ‡3 (Materials specified) added.

USMARC Authority Format

☐ Fields 066 (Character Sets Present) and 880 (Alternate Graphic Representation) added.

☐ Subfield ‡6 (Linkage) defined in fields in which non-Roman data might need to be recorded.

☐ 4XX (See From Tracings) and 5XX (See Also From Tracings) Fields–Subfield ‡5 (Institution to which field applies) added.

USMARC Holdings Format

☐ Leader/06 (Type of record)–Code "v–Multipart item holdings" added. Code "y–Serial item holdings" (code name changed from "Multipart or serial item holdings data") will no longer cover multipart items.

☐ 853–855 (Captions and Pattern), 863–865 (Enumeration and Chronology), 866–868 (Textual Holdings) Fields–Subfield ‡6 (Link and sequence number) changed to subfield ‡8.

The changes to the USMARC Authority format make it possible to include non-Roman data in an authority record. The technique for including the data parallels that used in the USMARC Bibliographic format.

These changes will not take effect until they have been published in the next update to the appropriate

(Cont. on p. 194)

USMARC Formats *(Cont. from p. 193)* format: Update No. 4 to the *USMARC Bibliographic*, Update No. 4 to the *USMARC Authority* and Update No. 1 to the *USMARC Holdings*. These updates will be published in 1991. Any questions should be directed to Sally H. McCallum, Chief, Network Development and MARC Standards Office, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540; or call (202) 707–6237.

PREMARC Activities

The PREMARC File represents the retrospective conversion of the bulk of LC's cataloging which was completed before automated records were routinely prepared at the Library of Congress.

In 1979, Carrollton Press and University Microfilms International issued a microfilm copy of the Library of Congress shelflist for which Carrollton Press announced that it would print a title index. This index was generated from MARC records and from non-MARC records which Carrollton converted to machine-readable form. The resulting body of machine-readable records was marketed by Carrollton Press under the name REMARC.

In 1980, the Library of Congress bought copies of the REMARC records. The non-MARC records, keyed in Scotland from hard copy blowbacks of the microform shelflist, were machine readable, but contained little content designation. The Library received these unedited records on tape for further processing.

This processing was performed through a series of programs called Format Recognition. Through Format Recognition, unedited cataloging data could generate content-designated, MARC-formatted records. Developed at the Library, these programs were used as part of LC's MARC cataloging workflow until the advent of on-line input/update in 1980. The newly formatted records were loaded into a separate file, i.e., the PREMARC File. Approximately 4,700,000 records reside on the file. A copy of the formatted records was also supplied to Carrollton Press.

Rumors that the MARC Editorial Division has run out of work can be laid to rest, for MARC Ed has more work to do than ever. Over the last two fiscal years, MARC Ed staff has made 130,000 changes to records in the PREMARC File, deleted 34,300 records, and added 6,600. Among corrections made were such notables as changing "Untied States" to "United States" and "Great Britian" to "Great Britain." Thousands of other corrections involved tagging for headings such as Hippocrates, Chaucer, Shakespeare, Napoleon, and many others which had been identified by Format Recognition as corporate bodies or topical subjects. The first week of September 1990, staff began work on the PREMARC enhancement.

Also referred to as the "OCat pass," this activity involves comparing each main entry card from the Official Catalog to the corresponding on-line PREMARC record. Errors will be corrected or the records enhanced by the expansion of the title and imprint fields and by the addition of key fields. For cards which have no on-line counterparts, records will be input. A variety of cards, stretching back to the early days of cataloging when cards were handwritten, will be encountered in this painstaking process.

The entire OCat pass from A to Z is expected to take MARC Ed staff approximately 20 years, but as the file upgrade progresses, the benefits of the work will be available immediately. For the material which it represents, the on-line file will provide a full range of access points that greatly exceeds those of a card catalog, thus making a significant difference in the availability of the Library's collections. It will serve as a resource for users and will greatly facilitate the quality and depth of research done not only in the Library of Congress but also at other institutions which will eventually have direct dial access. Finally, it will complement the other Library catalogs which together form a single integrated source for the entire wealth the Library has in its collections.

In addition to the PREMARC upgrade, MARC Editorial Division's most recent activities include:

The Priority 4 shelflist, which represents approximately 125,000 items held by the Library, is one of the shelflists that was not filmed. Consequently, these records have not been represented in this or any other on-line file. As part of the PREMARC upgrade process, MARC ED staff began inputting these records on Oct. 22, 1990. As of Feb. 22, 1991, 54,535 records had been keyed. Considered the precursor to minimal level cataloging, Priority 4 cataloging records can be recognized on the file by their call numbers which begin with the number "4" rather than a letter combination. They also have record identification numbers prefixed with "ltf," which stands for "less than full" cataloging.

As Priority 4 materials are being moved to the Landover Center Annex, the availability of this information on-line will aid the General Reading Rooms reference staff in determining which materials have already been reshelved at Landover.

In midyear, the division began adding microfilm shelflist numbers to records in the file, based on the Preservation Microfilm Office shelflist. These efforts will eliminate the need for retaining hard copy in the manual Central Charge File of the Loan Division. This project involves comparing cards from the shelflist of the PMO with PREMARC records and BOOKSM records in order to add several fields to the records to indicate microfilm replacements for LC holdings. Some additional fields will be added to the PREMARC records at the time the records undergo the OCAT comparison. With the exception of some problem records, the project was completed by the end of the 1990. To date, 53,300 records have been updated and 2,500 new records have been added to the PREMARC File with microfilm shelf numbers.

A project MARC Ed recently completed for the Prints and Photographs Division involved annotating online records to include shelf location information for the division's case book collection, i.e., rate materials. Most of the 2,000 records that were updated reside on the PREMARC File.

When the PREMARC enhancement is fully under way, approximately 40 staff members will be involved. In addition to work on the OCat pass, staff must input 80,000 "difficult to read" items that are not represented on the file. There is also a project under consideration for the Music Division.

PUBLICATIONS

1990 LC *Information Bulletin* Index Now Available

The Library of Congress Professional Association has published the 1990 *LCPA's Index to the Library of Congress Information Bulletin*. This useful key to *Information Bulletin* articles provides access by name and subject to the principal activities of the Library of Congress, as well as a range of national and international developments and issues of interest to libraries, information centers and publishers.

Included are areas such as copyright, preservation, automation, cataloging, authority control, and standards and reports of national and international conferences. The index also provides a handy means of identifying LC projects, products, symposia and exhibitions. For example: Do you recall what LC's ROLLUP project was, the participating agencies and the new name for the project? What is the geographic spread of the Library's services to the nation? The 1990 *Index to the LCIB* offers ready access to articles and maps that provide answers to these and other questions.

The 1990 *LCIB Index* is $10 per copy. *Special offers on back issues:* 1989 and 1990 Indexes—$15; 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988 Indexes—$7 per copy; set of seven Indexes, 1984–1990—$45.

Postage: All orders are sent book rate. Overseas orders: add $4. U.S. and Canada first-class postage: add $2. All orders must be prepaid; payment should be made to Library of Congress Professional Association. Foreign orders should be in U.S. currency, payable through a U.S. bank.

Mail orders to LCPA, Index Orders, Library of Congress, Washington, DC 20540.

Bibliography Just Published On German-Speaking Immigrants

Immigrants from the German-Speaking Countries of Europe: A Selective Bibliography, by Margrit B. Krewson, German-Dutch specialist in the European Division, is a revision and expansion of 1983's *Germanic People in the United States*.

The current edition, published by the Library, provides researchers

with a more substantial guide to sources relating to immigration to the United States from Austria, Germany and Switzerland. The publication focuses mainly on the literature available since 1983, and all items are in LC collections.

The publication is available free of charge, upon request, from the Library of Congress, European Division, Washington, DC 20540.

Horseback Riding and Other Equine Pursuits for the Blind And Physically Handicapped

Horses: An Introduction to Horses; Races, Ranching and Riding for Blind and Physically Handicapped Individuals is the fifth in a series of leisure pursuit bibliographic booklets from the National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (NLS).

"Enjoyment of riding is not limited to any age, sex or level of ability. Blind enthusiasts can ride or drive a buggy or cart with the same enthusiasm and skill as their sighted associates. Even racing is within reach," said NLS Director Frank Kurt Cylke, editor of the series.

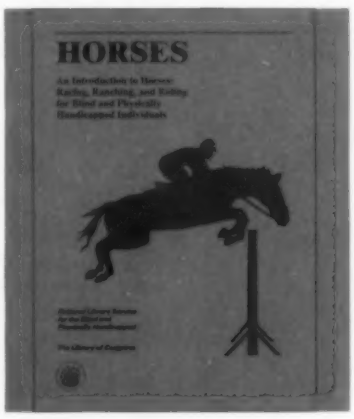
The booklet features "Diary of a Blind Horseman" by an ex-policeman, who has been involved with horses since the onset of his blindness, as well as an article about showing horses by a blind young woman from Mt. Albert, Canada.

Books in braille and on recorded cassette and disc are listed and annotated for adult and children's fiction and nonfiction categories. The booklet cites other printed materials available on horses and details activities and organizations, including classes, programs and associations.

According to Mr. Cylke, the concept of introductory bibliographic handbooks was inspired by Professor Antun Lastric, Union of the Blind of Croatia, who devoted his professional efforts to encouraging participation in leisure pursuits by blind and physically handicapped individuals.

The first booklet in the series was *Birding*, followed by *Fishing*, *Swimming*, and *Sailing*.

Horses is available upon request from the Reference Section, National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped, Washington, DC 20542. It is currently available in large print and will soon be available on recorded flexible disc and in braille.



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